



EXPERIENTIAL PROGRAMS

Preceptor Name: Ann Marie Shea

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Rotation Description

Location: Cardinal Health Nuclear Pharmacy Services

Site Description Information:

Cardinal Health NPS is a full service centralized nuclear pharmacy that provides radiopharmaceuticals to hospitals and cardiology clinics throughout Rhode Island and southeastern Massachusetts. The student will experience a basic overview of nuclear pharmacy practice.

Our centralized nuclear pharmacy serves as the "drugstore" for nuclear medicine departments and cardiology clinics. When a particular radiopharmaceutical is needed, a trained nuclear pharmacist is available to prepare the product and dispense it to the end user.

When you look at a nuclear pharmacy, its operation is not much different than that of a traditional pharmacy. However, there are certain areas of practice distinct to nuclear pharmacy, such as a separate class of drugs. Nuclear pharmacy is designated as a specialty pharmacy practice. In addition to preparing and dispensing the radioactive products, nuclear pharmacists are available to provide drug information to other health professionals, to aid the nuclear medicine staff in the selection of products, and to assist in the interpretation of unusual studies. Nuclear pharmacists serve as vital links in the provision of nuclear medicine services. By working closely with the nuclear medicine staff, nuclear pharmacists can contribute a tremendous amount to the provision of care for the patients who are undergoing nuclear medicine procedures. While similar to traditional pharmacy, nuclear pharmacy is also in many ways unique, and can be a challenging and rewarding career choice for pharmacists.

Goals/Objectives:

To be able to leave this experience with a solid background on what nuclear pharmacy is all about.

Students will experience all the aspects of nuclear pharmacy practice. Key areas of focus are radiopharmaceutical preparation and quality control, aseptic technique and dose drawing, and radiation safety and regulations.

Students will gain an appreciation for nuclear pharmacy as an exciting alternative form of pharmacy practice. It is truly a different experience that they will find useful throughout their pharmacy career.

Projects and/or required activities:

The student will visit a local nuclear medicine department to see how our products are utilized in the patient population. They will also give a presentation on a specific radiopharmaceutical with case studies.

Hours of service (please indicate if evening hours are required):

40 Hours (7am-3pm)

Name of person who students should contact prior to start of rotation:

Ann Marie Shea, Email ann.shea@cardinal.com

Is the social security number of the student required? Yes. Students must contact Ms. Shea (401)435-4220.

Site restrictions (Examples body piercing, artificial nails):

Lab coats required for radiation safety (provided).

No open toed shoes/sandals.

Additional information:

Students can contact Ann Marie Shea before they begin their rotation to set up a schedule and provide a social security number for radiation monitoring. We provide radiation safety and HIPPA training.